

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 LUSAKA 01050 290921Z  
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05  
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02  
SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-12 EB-08 TRSE-00 OMB-01 /105 W  
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R 290825Z MAR 78  
FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA  
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INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN  
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM  
AMEMBASSY GABORONE  
AMEMBASSY LAGOS  
AMEMBASSY LILONGWE  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO  
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUSAKA 1050

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

LAGOS FOR CODEL DIGGS

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PDEV RH US UK  
SUBJ: RHODESIA: CONGRESSMAN DIGGS LUNCHEON WITH JOSHUA NKOMO

1. SUMMARY: NKOMO STATES PF'S WILLINGNESS TO CONTINUE TALKS  
WITH ANGLO-AMERICAN PROPOSALS (AAP) AS BASIS FOR NEGOTIATION.  
TALKS SHOULD BE RESUMED IN MALTA CONTEXT WITH FOCUS ON MILITARY  
ASPECTS OF TRANSITION. AMERICANS AND BRITISH SHOULD PRESS FORWARD  
WITH AAP. QUESTION OF PATRIOTIC FRONT UNITY HAD NOT ARISEN IN  
DAR SUMMIT MEETING. THIS, SAID NKOMO, IS NO LONGER A PROBLEM.  
CONGRESSMAN DIGGS AND MEMBERS OF HIS GROUP DISCUSSED U.S.  
POLITICAL REALITIES AFFECTING U.S.' STAND ON INTERNAL SOLUTION.  
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NKOMO MAKES A PLEAS FOR MORE CONTACTS BETWEEN AFRICANS AND  
NON-OFFICIAL AMERICAN INSTITUTIONS. END SUMMARY.

2. CONGRESSMAN DIGGS, MRS. HERSCHELLE CHALLENGER AND MR. GIBSON  
LANPHER MET ZAPU PRESIDENT JOSHUA NKOMO AT LUNCHEON HOSTED BY  
DCM MARCH 27. NKOMO WAS ACCOMPANIED BY DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL  
DANIEL MADZIMBAMUTO AND SPECIAL ASSISTANT JOHN NKOMO. AMBASSADOR

LOW AND POLITICAL OFFICER ATTENDED ON EMBASSY SIDE. ATMOSPHERE WAS RELAXED AND CORDIAL.

3. NKOMO EXPRESSED SATISFACTION WITH THE DAR SUMMIT. ALL PARTIES HAD AGREED THAT THE BRITISH AND AMERICANS MUST ASSUME THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES AND PROCEED WITH THE AAP. THE PATRIOTIC FRONT IS PREPARED TO ENTER INTO DISCUSSIONS WITH THE AAP AS THE BASIS FOR NEGOTIATIONS. MALTA-TYPE MEETING SHOULD FOCUS ON MILITARY ISSUES AND CEASEFIRE. CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS COULD BE DELAYED FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION. CONGRESSMAN DIGGS COMMENTED THAT THERE ARE SOME WHO THINK THE DAR FRONTLINE COMMUNIQUE WAS NOT STRONG ENOUGH TO MOVE THE USG AND THE UK.

4. IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION, NKOMO SAID THAT THE QUESTION OF PATRIOTIC FRONT UNITY HAD NOT ARISEN IN DAR. THERE WAS NO NEED BECAUSE THIS PROBLEM NO LONGER EXISTED.

5. MR. LANPHER AND MRS. CHALLENGOR DISCUSSED SENTIMENT IN THE US WHICH FAVORS AN INTERNAL SETTLEMENT. THIS WAS REFLECTED IN WRITINGS OF COLUMNISTS AND IN EDITORIALS. IN ADDITION, ELEMENTS IN CONGRESS HAD SUBMITTED RESOLUTION FAVORING INTERNAL SETTLEMENT AN( LIFTING OF SANCTIONS. THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION COULD NOT IGNORE THESE SENTIMENTS, ESPECIALLY SINCE THOSE TAKING A PRO-

INTERNAL SETTLEMENT LINE WERE OPPOSING THE PANAMA CANAL TREATIES.

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6. IN A LENGTHY DIGRESSION, NKOMO EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT THERE SEEMED TO BE NO SIGNIFICANT BODY OF OPINION IN THE US WHICH UNDERSTOOD AND SUPPORTED THE ASPIRATIONS OF AFRICAN PEOPLES. THIS WAS ESPECIALLY EVIDENT IN THE ABSENCE OF PRIVATE AMERICAN GROUPS FROM THE AFRICAN SCENE. HE SAID THE CANADIANS AND GERMS WORKING THROUGH PRIVATE GROUPS COULD AND WERE RESPONSIVE TO ZAPU'S NEEDS. WHERE WERE THE AMERICAN COUNTERPARTS? IN REFERENCE TO INDIVIDUAL AMERICAN CONTACTS, NKOMO MENTIONED HOW MUCH CONGRESSMAN DIGGS' LETTER HAD MEANT TO HIM WHEN HE WAS IN PRISON. CONGRESSMAN DIGGS AND MRS. CHALLENGOR OUTLINED FOR NKOMO SOME OF THE ACTIVITIES IN SUPPORT OF AFRICA CARRIED OUT BY STUDENT, CHURCH AND OTHER GROUPS IN THE US.

7. COMMENT: DISCUSSION WAS OF A GENERAL NATURE AND SPECIFIC ELEMENTS OF AN ALL PARTIES RHODESIA CONFERENCE OR SPECIFIC AREAS TO BE DISCUSSED AT A MALTA-LIKE CONFERENCE WERE NOT DISCUSSED. NOTABLY ABSENT FROM NKOMO'S PRESENTATION WAS ANY MENTION OF THE INTENSIFIED ARMED STRUGGLE.

8. THIS MESSAGE NOT CLEARED BY CONGRESSMAN DIGGS.  
LOW

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CODELS, MEETINGS  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014